

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: NORTHWESTERN ENERGY, A DIVISION OF NORTHWESTERN SERVICES GROUP, INC.	DOCKET NO. WRU-01-26-3562
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ORDER GRANTING WAIVER

(Issued May 31, 2001)

On May 29, 2001, NorthWestern Energy, a division of NorthWestern Services Group, Inc. (NorthWestern), filed a request for an extension of the filing date for competitive natural gas providers to file for a certificate with the Utilities Board (Board) pursuant to 199 IAC 19.14(2). The subrule requires that competitive natural gas providers that were transporting gas to customers in Iowa prior to April 25, 2001, the effective date of 199 IAC 19.14, file for a certificate by June 1, 2001.

NorthWestern states that it intends to file the application but is unable to do so by the June 1, 2001, date. NorthWestern requests a waiver of the filing date until June 15, 2001.

The Board finds the request for a waiver of the filing date reasonable and will grant the extension. Some competitive natural gas providers did not become aware of the June 1, 2001, filing date in time to prepare an application by that date. The

delay should not prejudice any other person and there should be no disruption of service to NorthWestern customers.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

NorthWestern Energy, a division of NorthWestern Services Group, Inc., is granted until June 15, 2001, to file application for a certificate as a competitive natural gas provider.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Acting Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 31st day of May, 2001.